

## IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A retaining device that can maintain an electric contact (24) in a socket (22) of a connection box (20), said device comprising a bearing surface (50) that can cooperate with a shoulder (52) created at the level of said contact (24), such that bearing surface (50) and shoulder (52) have complementary nonplanar profiles, so as to obtain a greater contact surface than that obtained by planar surfaces having the same width dimension, characterized in that the complementary profiles are interlocking profiles oriented along an axis parallel to the axis of insertion of the contact into the socket.
2. (Currently Amended) The retaining device according to claim 1, further characterized in that bearing surface (50) comprises at least one projecting profile.
3. (Currently Amended) The device according to claim 2, further characterized in that bearing surface (50) comprises a projection (58) with slightly inclined lateral walls, positioned roughly symmetrically.
4. (Currently Amended) The retaining device according to claim 1, further characterized in that bearing surface (50) comprises at least one hollow profile.
5. (Currently Amended) An electric contact (24) that can be immobilized in a socket (22) of a connection box (20) by means of a retaining device according to claim 1 comprising a bearing surface (50) that can cooperate with a

shoulder (52) created at the level of said contact (24), such that shoulder (52) and bearing surface (50) have complementary, nonplanar profiles, so as to obtain a greater contact surface than that obtained by planar surfaces having the same width dimension, characterized in that the complementary profiles are interlocking profiles oriented along an axis parallel to the insertion axis of the contact in the socket.

6. (Currently Amended) The electric contact according to claim 5, further characterized in that shoulder (52) comprises at least one projecting profile.
7. (Currently Amended) The electric contact according to claim 6, further characterized in that shoulder (52) comprises a projection (58) with slightly inclined lateral walls, positioned in a roughly symmetrical manner.
8. (Currently Amended) The electric contact according to claim 7, further characterized in that shoulder (52) comprises at least one hollow profile.